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Campus NSA Reaction Varies

By Gerald Grant
Washington Post Staff Writer

W. Eugene Groves, president of the National Student Association, said yesterday that suspension of NSA's overseas operations did not spell the end of the organization's activities abroad.

But Groves said the NSA, rocked by disclosures of its 15-year covert sponsorship by the CIA would "reevaluate the type of activity we will sponsor abroad." The NSA's supervisory board announced Friday night the immediate suspension of its four representatives abroad until they could be cleared of any CIA taint.

NSA's future role in international student programs will depend principally on two things, Groves said: First, upon its success in obtaining funds from non-Government sources and, secondly, on whether "our overseas credibility has been totally ruined" by revelation of intelligence gathering activities in the past.

Credibility of the NSA also figured in the reaction to the disclosure on American campuses.

The Harvard Crimson, a student newspaper, argued editorially that it was "dangerously naive" to think that the CIA did not influence NSA policy and suggested the NSA was "no longer useful."

The Michigan Daily said flatly that the NSA's credibility had been "destroyed" and that it should fold up so that a new student organization could make a fresh start.

But there was strong support for the NSA elsewhere. Editors of the University of Colorado Daily proposed that the University rejoin the NSA and seek to strengthen it so that it cannot fall "prey" to the CIA.

Reports from Washington Post campus correspondents across the Nation revealed that reactions were mixed.

Some students felt the whole student exchange movement had been compromised.

Susan Rieger, a junior at Mount Holyoke College, said

foreign operations in "a vulnerable position. You just can't talk openly to a foreign student if he doesn't feel absolutely sure that it's confidential."

At Amherst College, Student Council President Fred Springer said "we don't think that espionage and propaganda should be supported by student minds or money." Springer added Amherst may withdraw its application for NSA membership.

At Princeton, the Daily Princetonian concluded that if students were spying for the NSA, then all student visits abroad "may be to some extent marred by our being considered 'agents' of some American democratic conspiracy."

Miller Hudson, president of the University of Maryland student government, said he did not "think NSA's value to us as a resource has been compromised." Student spokesmen for Howard University and Trinity, Dunbarton and Galaudet colleges—the only other area campuses represented in NSA—also expressed no inclination to withdraw immediately.

James Benton, treasurer of the student government at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and previously an active supporter of the NSA, said it would "be thrown off the campus if a referendum were held this week."

In contrast, the student government at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, where the NSA was founded in 1947, unanimously passed a resolution expressing its support of NSA. It urged that a Nationwide student fund campaign be launched to help free the NSA from any dependence on Government funds.

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